

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. An image recording apparatus that records image data on a recording medium in which a recording area is divided into a plurality of unit areas and available unit areas can be dispersedly distributed, comprising:

5           a detecting means for detecting a capacity of said recording medium; and  
          a setting means for setting said unit areas to a larger size as the capacity detected by said detecting means is large.

2. An image recording apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a specifying means for specifying a recordable number of frames of said recording medium  
10       on the basis of the capacity detected by said detecting means, wherein said setting means sets the size of said unit area on the basis of the recordable number of frames specified by said specifying means.

3. An image recording apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said image data is compressed image data compressed by rendering a predetermined size a target, and said  
15       specifying means specifies said recordable number of frames on the basis of the capacity of said recording area and said target size.

4. An image recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said image data is motion image data formed by a plurality of screens of still images, and said setting means sets the size of said unit area in consideration of a bit rate of the motion image data.

20       5. A digital camera provided with the image recording apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 4.

6. An image recording method that records image data on a recording medium in which a recording area is divided into a plurality of unit areas and available unit areas can be dispersedly distributed, comprising the steps of:

25       (a) detecting a capacity of said recording medium; and

(b) setting said unit areas to a larger size as the capacity detected in said step (a) is large.